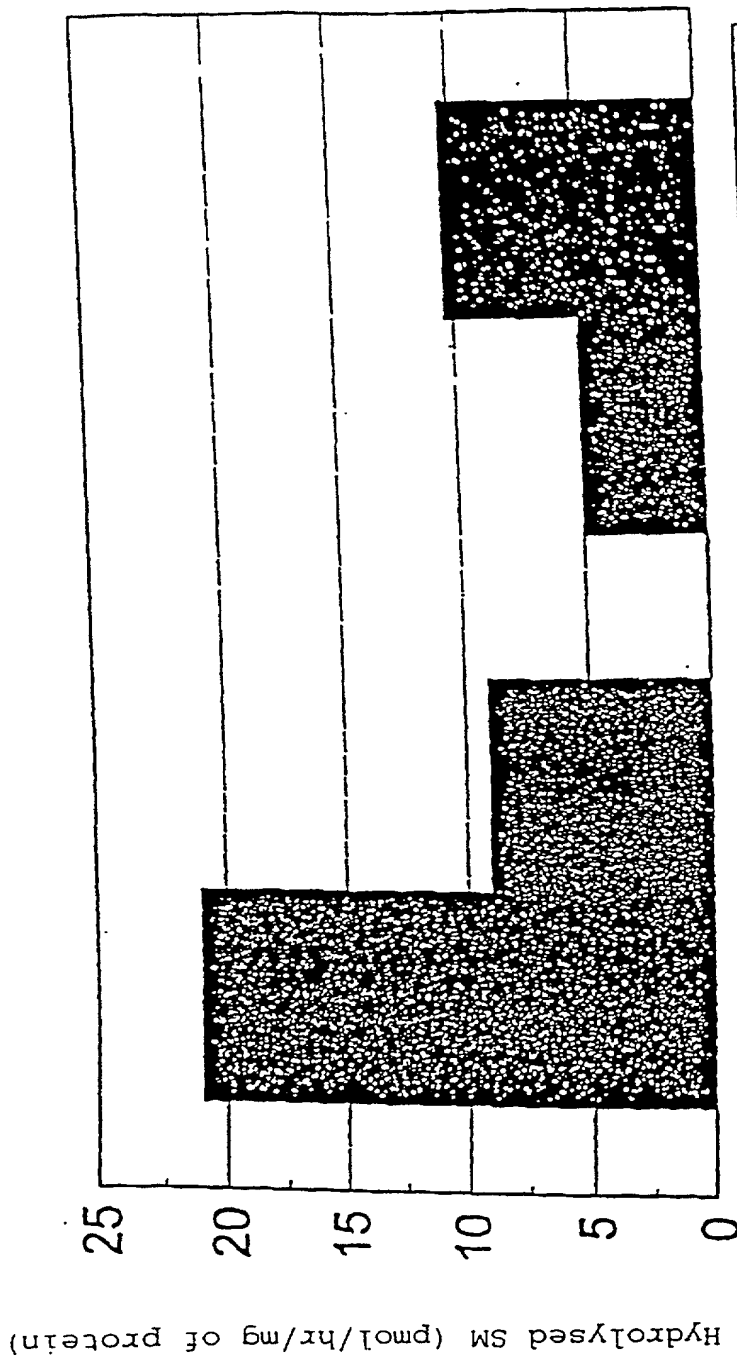


Fig. 1

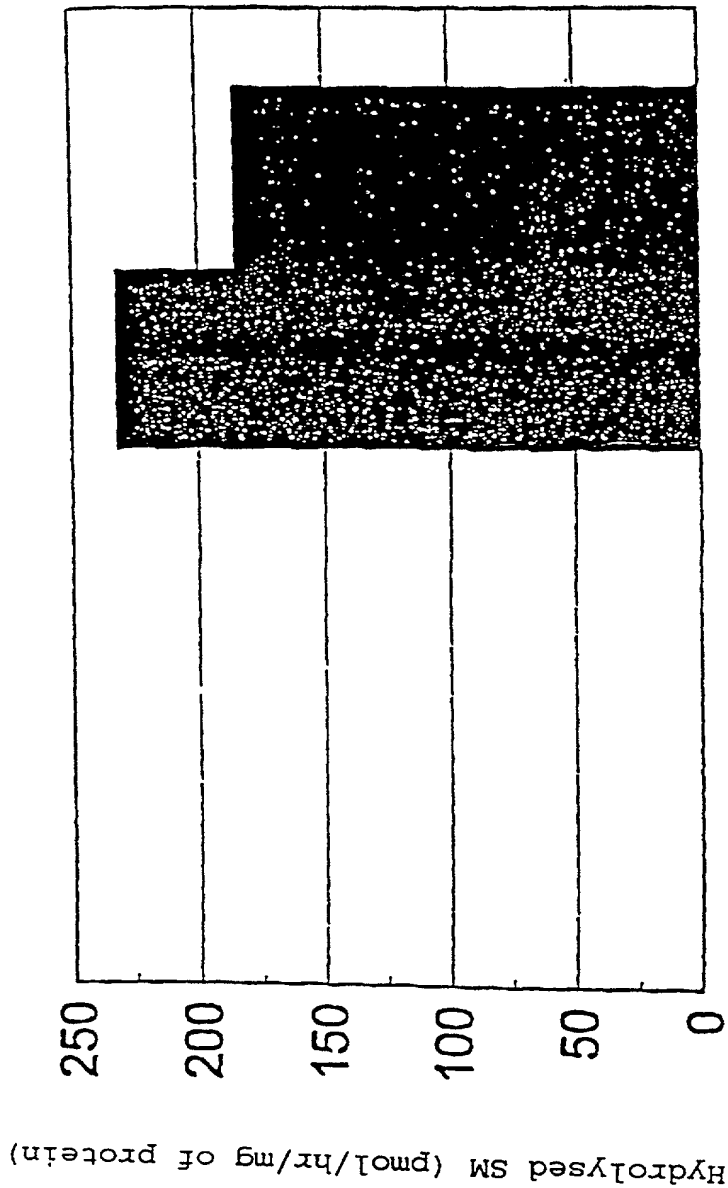
SMase activity found in *Streptococcus thermophilus*



	+ MgCl2	- MgCl2
pH 7.4	21.0	5.0
pH 9	9.0	10.4

Fig. 2

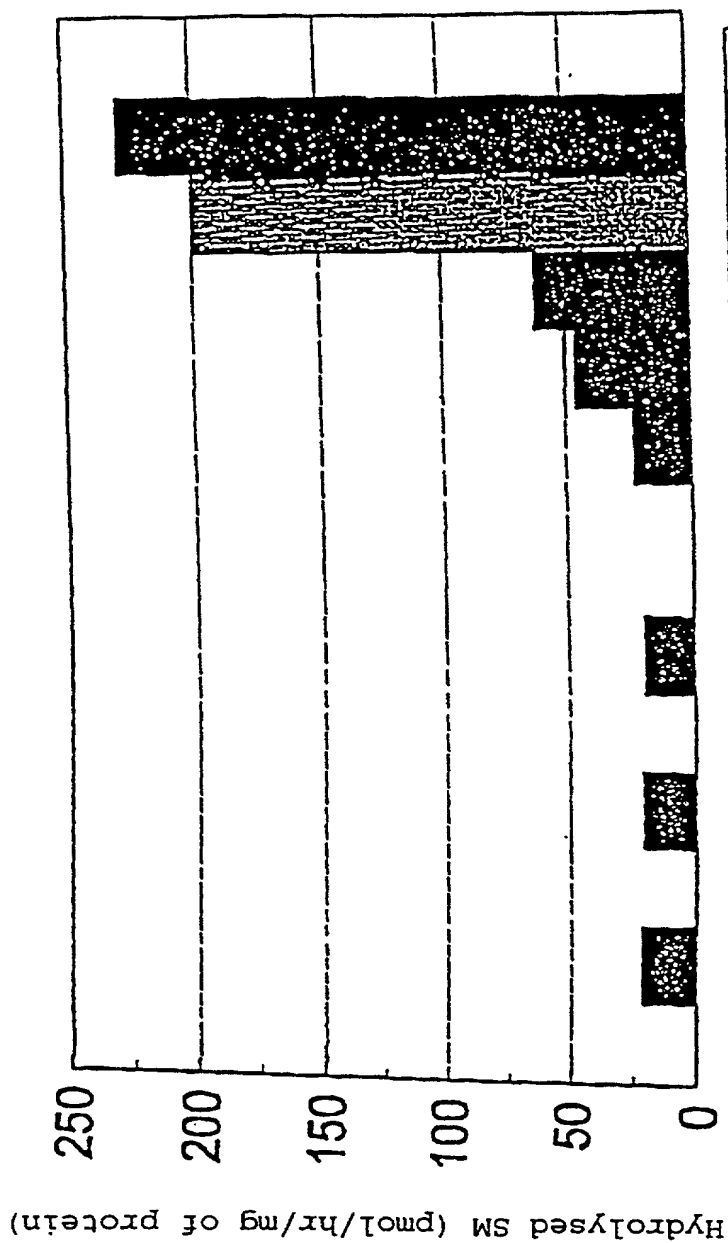
Alkaline SMase found in intestinal biopsy material



	Without bile salts	With bile salts
Control colon	0	232
Colon with Crohn's disease	0	185

Fig. 3

Effect of *Streptococcus thermophilus* on intestinal alkaline SMase



	Without bile salts	With bile salts
<i>S. thermophilus</i> ("S.th.")	22	23
Normal sigmoid colon	0	46
<i>S.th.</i> and normal sigmoid colon	21	62
Normal colon	0	200
<i>S.th.</i> and normal colon	20	229